

**Ambleside**



**Author, Gwyn Jones, Group leader.**

This year **Walking Group 4** visited Ambleside for a short break and stayed at The Salutation Hotel and Spa. The hotel with its excellent food, comfortable accommodation and friendly staff did not let us down. Our cars were parked at the hotel on the first day and not used until we were ready to come home. The weather on the 1<sup>st</sup> walking day brought us mist and drizzle but we were able to make an easy

low level 5 mile walk to Grasmere (with a coffee stop at Rydal Mount). Return was by open top bus. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day we were blessed with good weather which enabled a longer walk. We took the bus to Windermere station and then climbed to the top of Orrest Head. Here we enjoyed magnificent views as far as Morecombe Bay. We then descended making our way to join the Dales Way and eventually arrived at Bowness. Return was again by open top bus. Thanks to Bill Farr for organising both walks.

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**Reminder:** There will be no January 2020 Newsletter. The deadline for the next 2 Newsletters is midday, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November and midday, 23<sup>rd</sup> Thursday January, *at the latest.*

## Ingleborough



**Author, Marcia Thompson.**

October's **Fellwalking Group** walk was led by John Hughes and Gordon Spence and the objective was Ingleborough, at 2,308 ft, one of the three highest peaks in the Yorkshire Dales. John and Gordon had not just planned an excellent classic walk, but had also arranged for wall to wall sunshine and splendid views. We started from Clapham and having paid our £1 to walk through the grounds of Ingleborough Hall, we then climbed up Trow Gill to Gaping Gill, a scenic spot for coffee.

After that it was a steady climb to the top of Little Ingleborough (where the photo was taken) and then on to the summit of Ingleborough itself for lunch. Despite the sunshine, the air temperature was quite low and gloves and hats were needed, but the views, in every direction, were amazing – the Lakes, the sea, the Howgills, Pendle and Bowland – all visible and clear. The descent was steep at first and then a lovely grassy track along the edge of Simon's Fell Breast and the limestone plateau to the aptly named Long Lane back to Clapham.

Sixteen of us enjoyed this beautiful walk and thanks go to the leaders and the car drivers who had to negotiate a snarled up M6 on the way home.

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**Midday, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November &**

**Midday, Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January.**

## Walking on Water



*Author, Jeremy Swinson.*

**Walking Group 3** returned to the Lake District for their annual week away at the Cumbria Grand. Unlike last year when they faced hurricane force winds, this year was sunshine all the way.

On day one we enjoyed an extremely pleasant walk around the woods of Cartmel which inevitably included close inspections of the local fungi, and a sighting of the rare Porcelain fungus, thanks to our resident fungi expert Sol Photiou. Day two started with short walk around Tarn Hows before we set off for Lakeside and a free return cruise to Bowness courtesy of the Cumbria Grand that had us literally 'walking on water'. Who said you don't get a free ride these days! The following day we headed south to Silverdale where we eventually found the Eaves Wood car-park and an extremely varied walk through autumnal woods, past a 13<sup>th</sup> century ruined castle and magnificent views over Morecombe Bay.

The evening entertainment proved by the hotel appeared of variable quality, but we were not to be daunted and being ever resourceful, arranged our own quiz and folk night. Thanks to David Taylor for organising our week away and the Grand for our boat trip.

## Ramsbottom

*Author, Norman Sanderson.*

David & Glennis Poole led 14 stalwart **Walking Group 5** members on a lovely walk, starting from Ramsbottom Railway Station Car Park. The first two miles our route followed the valley of the River Irwell northwards, along paths and through fields (and through MUD, after heavy rain the day before!). At Stubbins we forsook the valley to tackle the main ascent of the day. This followed a steep and somewhat muddy path through woodland alongside a small tributary of the Irwell. Along the way we enjoyed our morning coffee break in a delightful brookside setting. Emerging from the

woodland we continued our ascent through fields (and more mud!) to reach a track high on Holcombe Moor. Six hundred feet above the valley the views were expansive and we strode confidently along the good track towards our lunchtime stop at the Peel Memorial Tower.

The Tower stands 128ft high, on Holcombe moor at an altitude of 1,000ft above sea level and is visible from far and wide. After lingering over lunch we left the Tower to descend steeply down into the Redisher Brook valley, following the brook to "Brooks Bottom" and then returning to Ramsbottom Station along the Irwell Valley Sculpture Trail. In all we walked about 8 miles and climbed slightly more than 1,000ft; and it only rained briefly once.

However.....the highlight of our day had to be meeting Chandra the manageress of Ramsbottom Station. David had previously got her permission for us to use the Station car park and toilets, but she turned up in person to unlock and open up the Station for the day. She was very friendly and welcoming and at the end of our walk provided tea coffee & cake, in exchange for a small donation to the railway. The railway is a "Heritage Railway" running between Rawtenstall and Heywood with just 7 stations on the line and we were able to watch one of the Steam Trains calling at the station as we enjoyed our refreshments.

It was a lovely end to a very successful day and we fully intend to return.



## U3A DIARIES 2020

Diaries should be available at our November coffee mornings and speaker events. These are £2.75 each. If you wish, you can reserve one by emailing: [secretary@formbyu3a.org.uk](mailto:secretary@formbyu3a.org.uk) (please indicate when you expect to collect your diary in your email).

## Port Sunlight



**Author, Geoff Jones.**

The sun shone and that made it an excellent day for **Local History Group 14** at Port Sunlight. It happened to be Ringo Star's 79<sup>th</sup> birthday and on our way to the Port Sunlight Trust's museum we passed Hulme Hall where coincidentally Ringo first performed with the Beatles in 1962. It was interesting and revealing that one of our group used to go to the dances there. The gentle walk to the Port Sunlight Trust's museum was a pleasure since the gardens and verges were in the full colour of the summer and displayed the varied architecture of Port Sunlight to its best advantage.

Port Sunlight Trust's museum is an illuminating and exceptional portrayal of the rise and rise of Lord Leverhulme by the marketing of Sunlight soap. He said anyone can make soap but not everyone can sell it and that was where his genius lay. The museum is modern and up to date with lively presentations that end with a 20 minute film which articulates the story of Port Sunlight. It starts with William Lever's early life in Bolton working in his father's grocery shop and witnessing the hard life of the working class in the Lancashire towns like Bolton and Bury. He believed, as few did in the late nineteenth century, that the working man and woman as well as the employer would benefit if the living conditions and the working environment was good. And so Port Sunlight was born and William became a Lord and was visited by Prime Ministers and Kings and Queens to see his great social success in the manner of Robert Owen's New Lanark. Faithful to Port Sunlight, Percil and other familiar products are still made there today. Even though you may have been to Port Sunlight before there is always something new for visitors such as the restored 'workman's cottage'. We had a full morning and we all migrated to the famous Bridge Inn for lunch and to put the world to right.

## Recorder Group

**Author, Fiona Tucker.**



The Group has been meeting regularly for about 10 years now. We meet on alternate Monday afternoons, the exact dates depending on our host and Bank Holidays but dates are announced in January and September for the following 6 months. Our sessions last from 2-4 pm and after playing we enjoy a cup of tea and lots of chat and laughter. As we meet in a private house there is no charge for the venue and the only other charge is for music from time to time and is very small (about £2 a year).

There are usually about 12 members but we could have up to 16 and welcome new players. Our aims are to have very enjoyable sessions of music making and to improve the image of the recorder. Since our main aim is to play for our own enjoyment we only do one or two concerts a year. We get asked back so must be doing something right! The music we play is extremely varied including medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Modern, Folk and Jazz; something to please everyone, both in the Group and our audiences.

For the past 2 years we have hosted a two day long Recorder Fest with a nationally known tutor for members of the Group and players from further afield. We also get together socially from time to time, usually for a pub meal before a session.

If you would like to join us you need to have some experience of reading music and playing a recorder. Ideally you should be able to offer two instruments of different sizes: e.g. descant and tenor, or treble and bass. Of course if you play all four that would be even better! We are a very friendly and supportive group of people and will make you very welcome but regret that we can no longer accept complete beginners.

Contact the Group Leader, Fiona Tucker at [fiona.tucker@talktalk.net](mailto:fiona.tucker@talktalk.net) or telephone 876636.

## Penrhyn



**Authors, Sue Jones & Liz Gough; photos David Skelton.**

The **Outings Group** members set out for Penrhyn Castle, North Wales on a cool but sunny day in a very comfortable coach. Ann informed us that we would be stopping en-route at Tweed Mill for shopping and refreshment. After our break we continued our drive along the scenic coastal route arriving at Penrhyn at 1:15pm. Following a group photograph and lunch we then had free time to explore this impressive building.



Penrhyn originated in the thirteenth century but was subsequently adapted and built upon by the Penrhyn family whose wealth was derived from the sugar and slate industries. As a result, the castle now stands as a unique example of neo-Norman Victorian architecture. Highlights included a guided tour of the many decorative rooms and opulent furnishings which were a snapshot of Victorian life at its most extravagant. Famous visitors included Queen Victoria who refused to sleep in a hand carved slate bed because she thought it resembled a coffin! A few hardy souls climbed over 100 steps to the roof terrace where, braving the strong wind they were rewarded with far reaching views over the Menai Straits and Snowdonia. Yet another enjoyable day out superbly organised by Ann.



## Royal Liver Building 360°

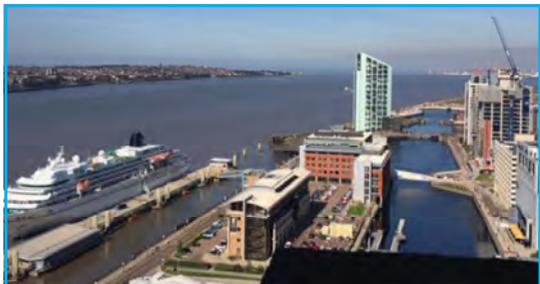


### ***Authors, Ray & Judith Aspinwall.***

It was more than a trip to the top of the Royal Liver building for **Local History Group 9** as it included a mock up of the Lusitania engine room on the way up and also a brilliant sounds and lighting film experience of the history of Liverpool over the last decades covering the life of the building. This was viewed behind the famous clocks in the historic clock tower on the 10th floor. It certainly made you feel proud to be a local.

Having been whizzed up to the 10th floor balcony by lift we then climbed on foot to the 15th floor (124 steps including 71 on a spiral stone staircase) just below the famous mythical Liver Birds.

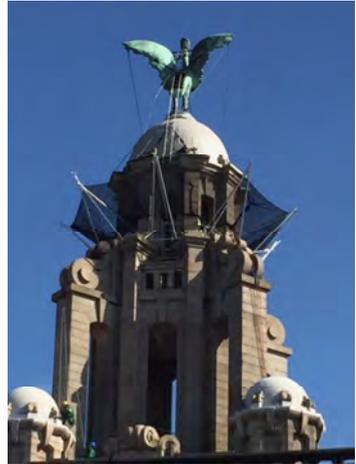
According to popular legend, they are a male and female pair: the female, Bella, looks out to sea, watching for sailors to ensure they return home safely, and the male, Bertie, looking in to the city, watching over the seamen's families (or 'making sure the pubs are open', as an alternative local



version has it). Local legend also says that the birds face away from each other as, if they were to mate and fly away, the city would cease to exist.

We were so lucky the day we went as it was brilliant blue skies the whole day. The views were excellent in all directions and we enjoyed spotting various landmarks across the city.

P.S. Spot the workers on high wires installing a new lighting system. They're not allowed to use scaffolding as it's a Grade 1 listed building.



## Hale Village



***Authors, Rosemary and Alan Thomas.***

**Local History Group 9** paid a very enjoyable and informative visit to Hale Village, a hidden gem not many miles from Speke and Halewood. We were met by the Lord Mayor of Hale, Freeman Jim Ross in all his regalia; as you can imagine, we were very impressed!

He informed us that both Hale and "Pool" villages in the 1100s had seven streets. Hale's Charter was granted in 1203, some 4 years before Liverpool was granted city status by King John in 1207. The Mayor confirmed that Hale still had seven streets,

Liverpool now considerably more! Heather, a very knowledgeable village resident, was our tour leader. She guided us through the village which has so many points of interest that we will have to return to cover it all. Records go back to 1081 and beyond. The first building was a Chapel of Ease, now the site of St Mary's Church. The earliest surviving part of the church is the 14th century sandstone tower which a few of our group climbed, giving panoramic views including the shore and the Mersey. We visited the tomb of John Middleton, best known as the Childe of Hale, a 9ft 3inch gentle giant whose small cottage is in the village. Fable has it that it was so cramped that he had to sleep with his feet out of the window, but who knows? There is an imposing life sized bronze statue of John nearby. Perhaps not so gentle, he was employed as a bodyguard to Gilbert Ireland, the original owner of Hale Hall. In 1617 King James 1 came to Hale to bestow a knighthood on Gilbert Ireland. He was so impressed by John Middleton and his size, both were invited to London so John could wrestle the King's Champion. In 1620 both went to the palace. Needless to say, John defeated the champion and the King gave him £20 prize money, a fortune in those times. Unfortunately he was robbed on the way home and arrived back penniless. In more recent times both Winston Churchill and the Queen visited this ancient village. Churchill was a friend and associate of Blackburne family, the more recent owners of Hale Hall, which was demolished in 1981. Because of its history, The Queen briefly visited Hale in 1968.

Our visit ended with lunch at the Childe of Hale pub, which was once a court house.



CROSBY CAPRIOL SINGERS Christmas '19 Concert

# Haydn's St Nicholas Mass

and a selection of Christmas Music

**2.45pm Sunday**  
**8<sup>th</sup> December**

**Christ Church**  
Alexandra Road L22 1RJ  
(opposite Crosby Police Station)

Accompanist  
**Julie Oade**

Musical Director  
**Katherine Stonham**

**Tickets £10**  
**(£8 concessions, under 19s free)**

available on the door & from  
**Pritchard's Bookshop** (L23 2SE)  
**Harmonics Music** (L22 4QD)

Registered Charity No. 503870



# The Harry Whitehouse Players

Present 3 short comedies:

## Neighbourhood Watch

*by Liz Dobson\**



## Oh Mother!

*Author unknown*



&



## Airfield

*By Bob Tucker\**

\*These amateur productions are presented by arrangement with Lazy Bee Scripts.

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> & Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November

at 7:45 pm



and a matinée on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Nov.



at 2:30 pm

In the Fisher Hall, Formby United Reformed Church,  
111, Church Road, Formby, L37 3ND

Tickets £5 including refreshments, from Sheila – 01704 879998

**Formby U3A**  
**2019 Christmas Show featuring:**



at

**Holy Trinity Church Hall**

Rosemary Lane, Formby, L37 3HA

on

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

***N.B. This is the 3rd Wednesday of the month***

Doors open 1.00pm, show starts 1.30pm.

Come & hear some wonderful seasonal music  
 Sit with friends and enjoy a complimentary glass of wine and mince pie.

**Tickets £2.00 each**

are available at the November speaker meetings and coffee mornings,  
 subject to availability. **Only 200 tickets are available.**

Enquiries: Email: [1stofficer@formbyU3A.org.uk](mailto:1stofficer@formbyU3A.org.uk)  
 or telephone Linda Smith, 0151 929 3927

**Groups News**

***Author, Linda Sharratt, Acting Groups' Secretary.***

I have taken over as Acting Groups' Secretary and can be reached by e-mail:  
[groups@formbyu3a.org.uk](mailto:groups@formbyu3a.org.uk) or by telephone 878232. If you wish to join a group and  
 there are currently no vacancies, please contact me.

**Bridge Groups Co-ordinator:** Nikki Harrison has agreed to be the Co-ordinator for  
 all the Bridge Groups. She is prepared to be the point of contact for members wishing  
 to find out more about the different groups and which would be the most suitable group

to join according to their experience. For further details please contact:  
nikki@nikki101077.plus.com

**Bridge 9:** has vacancies for members to play Duplicate Bridge. Meetings take place in members homes and members take it in turn to host. Members would also be welcome to go a reserve list to play occasionally in which case they would not be expected to host. Please contact Barbara Hills: babs.hills@yahoo.com or call 834212.

**Beginners Golf:** A new Golf Group has started up which is aimed at beginners. The group meet weekly on Wednesday mornings, 10-11, at Formby Golf Centre on Moss Lane and are given tuition by golf professional, David Lloyd at a driving range. The cost is £6.00 paid directly to David Lloyd on the day. For further details please contact Bob Campbell on 872591 or e-mail bob.c@blueyonder.co.uk



**Family History 3:** has 2 vacancies and meets once a month on Monday morning. The experience of the group members is very varied, from complete beginners to very experienced family history researchers. We operate on a self-help basis and we also include visits to archives, talks by invited speakers and computer workshops. Please contact David and Glennis Poole 872284.



**Local History Co-ordinator:** Lis Harvey (Local History Group 15) has kindly volunteered to be the Co-ordinator for the Local History Groups. She will contact the leaders of the Local History Groups in the near future to introduce herself and discuss her role.

**Music Appreciation Group 1:** has 2 vacancies and meets every fourth Thursday 2-4pm at the home of the host member. The host arranges a 2 hour programme of recorded music including a break for refreshments allowing time for socialising. Subjects include songs from the shows, film scores, classical music etc. The group is friendly and informal. Please contact Rob Blackwell on 875573 or e-mail: roblackwell@talktalk.net

**Puzzles Group:** This friendly, sociable group meets on the last Tuesday of each month. The present Group Leader is unable to continue in that role and so has closed the group to new members. Current group members are also unable to lead the group. Is there anyone willing to take on the role of Group Leader, after which the group would possibly be open again to new members? Please contact the Groups Secretary for further details.

**Vacancies:** There are also vacancies in the following groups: Art, Bird Watching, Board Games, Boules, Bowling, Bridge Groups 1, 3, 8, 9 & 22, Canasta 4 & 5, Chess, Cookery, Current Affairs, Cycling, Gardening 1 & 3, Guitar, Golf, Local History 6, Lunch Thursday & Sunday, Needlecraft, Science, Scottish Dancing, Scrabble 2, Swimming, Table Tennis, Ukulele, Walking 5 and Whist 2.

**An appeal to all Group Leaders:** It would be helpful if you can check that the details on your website page entry are still correct. Please e-mail any additions or amendments to the Group Secretary, who has been updating them but hasn't yet completed the project. Remember, every Group has its own 'information page' on the Formby U3A website which is accessed by clicking on the Groups tab at the top of the page and then clicking on the alphabetical listing of groups.

**Group Reporting:** A reminder that we need to include groups income and expenditure in our results from 2019. Many groups do not need complete monthly reports because they either don't have any income and expenditure, or amounts are very small (less than £100 per year), or the monies in and out occur on the same day. However these groups need to submit an annual statement to the Treasurer stating why they do not need to report. If you haven't already done so, would you please e-mail the Treasurer with this information (treasurer@formbyu3a.org.uk), or send a letter to Formby U3A, PO Box 216, Liverpool, L37 1XQ, or speak to the Treasurer at the monthly coffee morning.

Your **yellow 2019 membership card should be shown** at all meetings.

### **George Burns Smilers.**

"It takes only one drink to get me drunk," he boasted. "I can't remember whether it's the 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup>!"

"You can't help getting older, but you don't have to get old."

"Too bad that all the people who know how to run the country are busy driving taxi-cabs and cutting hair"

You know you're getting old when you stoop down to tie your shoelaces and wonder what else you can do while you're down there."

"I'd rather be over the hill than under it"

"I never go jogging. It makes me spill my martini."

### **A Healthier Life**

***Author, Keith Jacques, Secretary.***

As Formby U3A Secretary, I sometimes get some unexpected e-mails. Recently I received an email from a doctor in Australia which I thought was worth sharing.

*"Hi, I am a family doctor in Australia who has self published a simple e book on personal health titled Take a Simple Drive to a Healthier Life. This email is to make the book's free availability known to all your local U3A members. It may help members improve their health and understanding of some basic health issues. I stress that I receive NO return for any free downloads."*

I have downloaded the book myself and it is now on the Formby U3A web page, "Latest News."

## Forthcoming Music & Theatre Events

**Author: Eileen Jones.**

Dave, Linda and I are currently busy planning events for the forthcoming year. We aim to provide you with a wide selection from which to choose, including drama, musicals, classical music and ballet. Any feedback and suggestions you may have are very helpful to us and always welcome. Unfortunately, many members still seem to be under the impression that in order to attend an event, they need to be a member of the "Music and Theatre group." There is no group, all events are open to and for the benefit of any fully paid up member of the U3A. All you need to do after booking a show with us is to get yourself to the bus stop outside The Cross House pub. Once on the bus you will be given your ticket and then transported to and from the theatre. We work hard to provide this facility for you and hope you will support us in the following year. You will always find us at the monthly coffee mornings so come and have a chat and see what treats we have in store for you.

Please book tickets as early as possible, to avoid both your disappointment and our financial loss on the event. We have to pay for the tickets some months in advance and the price to you is estimated jointly on the number of tickets and the subsequent cost of transport. It is extremely helpful to us if you can please pay for tickets when the initial booking is made and to write the event name and your telephone number on the back of the cheque. If you cannot attend an event let us know as soon as possible and we will attempt to sell your ticket to someone on the waiting list. ***The coach usually leaves The Cross House bus stop at 6:15pm. Prices include ticket and transport.*** Any variation on these details will be specified with the event detail.

**Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Nov., "The Nutcracker,"** Liverpool Empire. An English National Ballet classic, it is danced exquisitely to Tchaikovsky's magnificent score and tells the delightful story of how a young girl's enchanted present, a beautiful, wooden nutcracker doll comes to life and leads her on a wonderful Christmas adventure, defeating the evil Mouse King and eventually arriving in a magical kingdom. Tickets including transport £40.

**Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> Jan., "Curtains,"** Liverpool Empire. For those of you who love musicals, whodunnits and comedy, this is a treat not to be missed. This Tony award winning murder mystery stars the well known comedian, Jason Manford who brings hilarity and star quality to the role of the music loving detective, Frank Cioffi. Will he solve the backstage murder and go on to save the show? Tickets including transport £35

Dave Irving can be contacted, if necessary, on 630192.

## Sefton: Borough Of Culture 2020

**Author, David Davies, Group Leader U3A Folk Group.**

Many members will be aware by now that Sefton borough has been nominated by Liverpool City Council as the Borough of Culture next year, 2020. This year Wirral hold that honour and will be 'passing on the baton' to Sefton this November. Sefton Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) already have several major cultural events lined-up and are looking to our communities to bring forward ideas and promote cultural events across the Arts. Many of these will be performance based, such as theatre and music-based groups of which there are many throughout Sefton; not forgetting Formby and our own U3A.

Latest information from Sefton indicates that a launch event will take place this November from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> at the Crosby Coastal park at the bottom of South Road. An artistic evening lighting event called "Constellations" will be held there for visitors to walk round and enjoy. In addition, plans are in hand for performance groups, i.e. Sefton based bands, orchestras, dance groups, theatres etc., to be invited to participate in this and other similar events throughout the year.

Sefton CVS have already held workshops, inviting community groups to participate in these and put forward their ideas and plans for celebrating the year. Performance groups in our own U3A are being kept informed of Sefton's plans and progress and Sefton CVS have now begun to issue regular newsletters which may be found on the internet by e-mailing: [BOC2020@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:BOC2020@sefton.gov.uk). The first of these newsletters, recently issued, sets out Sefton's plans and key objectives. Interested members are advised to contact the CVS at the above email address for copies and further information. More information may also be found on "My Sefton" website.

While some monetary grants from Sefton may be available, any U3A group considering seeking such funding must first discuss the matter with the U3A's main committee. Meanwhile, I have agreed to act as the nominal link between Formby U3A and Sefton CVS. Members seeking specific information are urged, however, to seek out the regular Sefton Council for Voluntary Service, Borough of Culture, newsletters, mentioned above, or by e-mailing: [events@seftoncv.org.uk](mailto:events@seftoncv.org.uk) on general matters. If contacting me I would prefer e-mail contact, please to: [davkar@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:davkar@tiscali.co.uk)

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**Midday, Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January.**

## Outings Group

**Author, Ann Blackman, Phone 871127.**

**Outings are open to all paid up members of the U3A.** All we ask is that you have the ability to get on and off the coach independently. We cannot be responsible for providing assistance. The coach can accommodate mobility aids which are kept in the luggage compartment on the bus. All departures are from Cross Green.

Owing to increased demand, we cannot reserve tickets: **Tickets will be allocated on a first come and paid for – first reserved basis.** A separate cheque is required for each outing and **it is essential that members include their telephone number with each booking.** Several cheques have been received with no information and I have struggled to identify what they are for. If no contact details are provided, I am unable to contact people when outings are fully booked.

Bookings and information are available at U3A monthly meetings, or coffee mornings. Alternatively please send a stamp addressed envelope to: Ann Blackman, 9 River Close, Formby, Liverpool L37 6DJ, enclosing a separate cheque for each outing made out to **Formby U3A Outings Group**, having your name, address and telephone number **on the back.**

**Thursday Nov 21<sup>st</sup>, Bents Garden Centre Warrington.** Tickets £8.00 include coach travel and gratuities. Join us to see one of the most spectacular Christmas displays in the country. You will have an opportunity to buy decorations or just enjoy the day and get new ideas. Bents garden centre outdoor displays include plants, garden furniture, sheds etc. Indoors there are various area exhibits including furniture, food hall, gifts, and clothing as well as the extensive Christmas displays. In addition there are a number of eateries to choose from. Food is not included in the price. Depart Cross Green 9:00am.

**Wednesday December 11<sup>th</sup>, Blackpool Tower.** Tickets £30.00 include coach and gratuities, entrance to the tower, circus and afternoon tea in the ballroom with Wurlitzer organ. We arrive mid-morning giving you time to explore the town or go immediately into the tower to explore the facilities including eateries, bars, shops lounges and ballroom. The ticket price includes entrance to the circus which provides a unique combination of fun and excitement with high wire thrills, mind blowing balancing acts and death defying stunts. We then transfer to the ballroom for the afternoon tea dance. We will be entertained by the resident organist John Bowdler playing the Wurlitzer giving you the opportunity to dance or just sit enjoy the music and watch others. Depart Cross Green 9:00am.

## To Help You

An **audio version of the Newsletter** is available for members who are visually less able and is distributed through the post. If you are aware of any Formby U3A member who would prefer to receive an audio version of the Newsletter, please let a member of the Committee have their details.

**If you:** have changed your address, telephone number, or e-mail address, or now have an e-mail address and wish to subscribe to electronically receiving the Newsletter, or

no longer wish to receive e-mails from Formby U3A, or

have an enquiry about your membership card, or subscriptions,

**please contact [membership@formbyu3a.org.uk](mailto:membership@formbyu3a.org.uk)** or write to: Membership Secretary, Formby U3A, PO Box 216, Liverpool L37 1XQ Please remember to include your full name and address, or your membership number.

**Discounts:** Formby U3A has negotiated discounts for members with local firms. A list is on the website, or is available from the Secretary.

## Can You Help?

**Author, Frances Taylor, e-mail: [chairman@formbyu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairman@formbyu3a.org.uk) telephone 577205.**

**Right now** there are 3 vacancies on the Committee and the whole of the Formby U3A Committee will be up for election at the AGM in March. If you feel you could contribute to the smooth running of your U3A please think about joining the committee either now or in March. It gives you a chance to meet new people and find out what is going on.

We welcome new people and new ideas. You don't need to apply for a specific position – all contributions are gratefully received! Please contact any Committee member to find out what it involves.

## Formby U3A Committee

2019-20

Chairman	Frances Taylor (2017)	577205	<a href="mailto:chairman@formbyu3a.org.uk">chairman@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>
Secretary	Keith Jacques (2018)	870906	<a href="mailto:secretary@formbyu3a.org.uk">secretary@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>
Treasurer	Anne Rodmell (2019)	621835	<a href="mailto:treasurer@formbyu3a.org.uk">treasurer@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>
Membership Sec.	Christine McIlraith (2018)	874787	<a href="mailto:membership@formbyu3a.org.uk">membership@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>
Group Secretary	Linda Sharratt (2019)	878232	<a href="mailto:groups@formbyu3a.org.uk">groups@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>
Officers	Linda Smith (2019)		<a href="mailto:1stofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk">1stofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>
Co-opted	Lillian Coop (2019)		<a href="mailto:2ndofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk">2ndofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>
Co-opted	Robin Hawthorn (2019)	808227	<a href="mailto:5thofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk">5thofficer@formbyu3a.org.uk</a>

*year appointed to the Committee*

## Monthly Meetings

Are at 2:00 pm in Holy Trinity Parish Hall, the second Wednesday of each month.

**Parish Hall alternative access:** To avoid the front steps, an entrance at the rear of the building can be accessed by following the footpath to the left of the main doors.

**November 12<sup>th</sup> The Folk Group; The Bill Tasker Show.** Bill was a local eccentric WW1 veteran who lived in Formby sandhills and died in 1966. Well known songs of the period are played and sung by the Folk Group. **In the Church ..... *not* the hall!**

**Dec 18<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> week) Sing Me Merseyside** perform a wide range of songs.

**Jan 8<sup>th</sup> “Move it or Lose it,”** Louise Rooney. An introduction into gentle exercise in a chair.

**Feb 12<sup>th</sup> “Through the eyes of a magician,”** Peter Turner.

**Please remember to bring your current YELLOW membership card to all events, including group activities.**

**Coffee Mornings are from 10:30 to 12:00 on Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup>** and each Thursday, the day after the monthly meeting, except August. These are held in the Workshop, Holy Trinity Church, with free coffee and the chance to pick up information about other groups and meet some of your Committee.

**Contributions** informing members of your group and its activities are always welcomed.

Please send contributions to the Editor, e-mail: [newseditor@formbyu3a.org.uk](mailto:newseditor@formbyu3a.org.uk) No e-mail providers guarantee 100% delivery rate and if, 7 days after submitting an article you have not received an acknowledgement one of the e-mail systems failed, so please try again.

Formby U3A Committee would like to remind contributors that it is their responsibility and not the Editor's to check their submitted articles for the grammar, spelling, punctuation etc. Contributors' names should be given.

**Photographs** submitted must be members' own photos as copyright of third parties' photos remains with the owner and the Newsletter cannot publish such photos. Please ensure that all people shown in photographs are aware that photographs are being taken for inclusion in the Newsletter.

Please do not send photographs within a word processed document. It results in poor quality images which are pixelated with members unrecognisable. **Please send photographs as separate attachments.**

**Previous Newsletters:** are available at: [www.formbyu3a.org.uk/newsletters.html](http://www.formbyu3a.org.uk/newsletters.html)

**The deadline for articles for the next Newsletter is midday the penultimate Thursday of the month, Thurs, 21<sup>st</sup> November at the latest.** The next Newsletter is due to be distributed by e-mail and be on the website early December. Paper copies can be collected at the monthly meeting & coffee morning.